



SCORE CASE STUDY - MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

The benefits of SCoRe and company annual reports to users and in particular to members of the academic research community have been amply demonstrated by a recent project undertaken at the Manchester Business School (MBS). This was undertaken in the period October - December 2001.

The Project

The aim of the project was to track, over a 10 year time period, the changes and developments in board and senior management composition in the leading UK quoted companies. The only reliable and consistent source of information for this project was the annual reports of the companies concerned. Their uniqueness and usefulness was demonstrated by the fact that the research was over a 10-year time span (1990-2000) and also that the particular data needed was not included in any other source.

The research concentrated on two main elements;

- To track the changes in the actual board members and senior management of the companies concerned
- To track and analyse the actual nature of the board and job titles of the individuals concerned and if and how companies changed what data they actually provided as regards to their boards and senior management composition over the ten year time period.

Use of SCoRe

For MBS Holdings

Having identified from a series of ranking mechanisms, the top 50 UK companies for each year, we were able to ascertain **quickly and accurately** from SCoRe what annual reports we had in stock at MBS and for which of the particular years in question. Previously this would have involved the scanning of an outdated and inflexible card index. This would naturally have been much more labour and time intensive and furthermore this paper index did not have had the ownership cross-referencing capability of SCoRe.

For alternative holdings

In a project of such scope, for some of the companies identified, MBS did not stock all the reports identified in the rankings. For the research to have validity it was important to analyse the data for all the companies and for all the years. By checking on SCoRe as to what other libraries were liable to hold these "missing reports" we were in a

position to obtain the data from the reports in question. Previously this would have involved contacting a range of libraries individually. Through SCoRe we were able to firstly ascertain what other libraries in the region had a current company report collection, therefore possibly having the missing reports. We could then travel to this nearby library to undertake the research. Secondly we could discover, through the selective holdings information facility on ScoRe, potential alternative collections on a national basis to utilise. Both the collections of Leeds Metropolitan University and London Business School were subsequently used to augment the data in order to complete the research project.

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